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sew masterclass

Get comfy and chic in our EDNA DRESS

If you're looking for a garment that is both stylish and easy to wear, this dress has your name on it. The loose-fitting tunic is made from crisp linen and features easy-sew pockets, subtle topstitching, plus a back neck loop and button at the reverse for fastening. It's destined to become a go-to piece in your wardrobe!

Get started

- Medium weight linen or cotton/linen, 2.2m (1.4m wide) or 2.6m (1.15m wide)
- Lightweight fusible interfacing, 20cm x 75cm
- 1.5cm button

Sizes

	Bust (cm)	Waist (cm)	Hips (cm)
Small (8-10)	82-86	65-69	90-94
Medium (12-14)	91-96	74-79	99-104
Large (16-18)	100-106	84-89	109-114

Finished length: approx. 92.5cm (sml), 94cm (med), 96.5cm (lrg)

Finished hip: approx. 110cm (sml), 120cm (med), 130cm (lrg)

Cutting guide

Note: iron interfacing to the reverse of the front and back facings

Lower front: cut one on the fold

Front facing: cut one on the fold

Upper front: cut one pair

Upper back: cut one pair

Lower back: cut one pair

Back facing: cut one pair

Pocket: cut two

Note: cut the following pieces from fabric where the raw edges are aligned at the centre cut

Sleeve: cut two on the fold

Loop: cut one on the diagonal grain

See online for layout diagram. 1cm seam allowance used throughout.

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stitch a TUNIC DRESS

Fiona Hesford's top tips for STITCHING & FINISHING

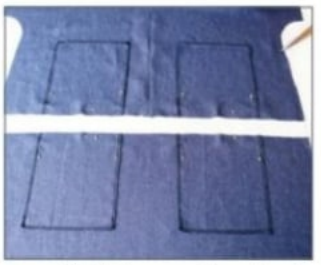
- This pattern is made up of the following pieces: the upper front, upper back, lower front, lower back, sleeve, front facing, back facing, pocket and loop.
- When topstitching, extend the stitch length to 2.8mm then sew roughly 4mm from the seam line on the right side, using a contrast colour thread to accentuate it.
- You'll need a poking tool when pressing out the seams of the neck facing.
- To make a rouleau loop, fold the strip in half lengthways. Sew a 1cm seam, leaving a long thread at one end. Tie this onto a blunt-ended needle and pass it into the tube and out of the other end. Ease the fabric through the tube gently to turn right sides out, then press.
- Finish the raw edges with a zigzag stitch or overlocker.
- Remember that a 1cm seam allowance is used throughout.

The rouleau loop is trapped inside the neck facing and catches around the button to fasten

Sewing the body pieces

1 Visit **sewmag.co.uk/templates** to download and print the pattern. Pin the upper back pieces right sides together, then sew up to the marker point as indicated on the template, leaving the seam open above.

2 Pin the lower back pieces right sides together, then sew the centre-back seam. Pin the upper front pieces right sides together, then sew the centre-front seam. Press all of the seams open.



3 Finish the raw edges of each pocket piece, leaving the top edge raw. Pin the pockets to the upper and lower front at the horizontal raw edge as indicated on the template. Sew, then finish the raw edges.

4 Press the pocket away from the body and topstitch. Pin the upper front to the lower front, right sides together and aligning the pockets. Sew together along and around pockets. Press.

5 Using a contrast colour thread, topstitch down the vertical centre-front and centre-back seams, then across the horizontal front and back seam (press the pockets upwards when doing this).

6 Place the front and back pieces with right sides together, pin at the shoulders, then sew them together at the shoulder seams. Press the seams to the back.

Stitching the neck facing

7 Pin the front and back facings right sides together. Sew at the short sides, then press the seams open. Finish the raw outer edge of the facing. Tack the piece to the neck, right sides together and aligning the cross seams.

8 Stitch around and down the short sides at each far end. Nick the curved seam allowance and corners, then trim at the cross seam. Press to the right side, pushing the seams out and aligning them with the fold.

9 Make your loop (see Fiona's tips, left), then nick the seam at the right-hand side of the neck facing. Insert the loop, re-stitch, then pin the facing in position all around. Tack, then topstitch around the neckline, 4cm from the edge.

Making the sleeves & hemming

10 Pin then sew the sleeves to the body. Finish the raw edges and press. Sew the front to the back at the sides, from the sleeve edge to the lower hem.

11 Finish all of the raw edges, then nick the curved underarm seam allowances. Turn the tunic right sides out, then press.

12 Make a 2cm hem at both the tunic hem and sleeve edges, then topstitch in a contrasting thread. Sew a small button on at the back neck.

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